

	<p>California Public Utilities Commission <i>Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program</i></p>
	<p>East County (ECO) Substation Project</p> <p>Compliance Status Report: 026</p> <p>March 30, 2014</p>

SUMMARY

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for overseeing implementation of the mitigation measures set forth in the Final Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (FEIR/EIS) for the East County (ECO) Substation Project. The CPUC has established a third-party monitoring program and adopted a Mitigation Monitoring, Compliance, and Reporting Program (MMCRP) to ensure that measures approved in the FEIR/EIS to mitigate or avoid significant impacts are implemented in the field. This MMCRP status report is intended to provide a description of construction activities on the project, a summary of site inspections conducted by the CPUC’s third-party monitors, the compliance status of mitigation measures required by the MMCRP, and anticipated construction activities. This compliance status report covers construction activities from March 17–30, 2014.

MITIGATION MONITORING, COMPLIANCE, AND REPORTING

Site Inspections/Mitigation Monitoring

A CPUC third-party environmental compliance monitor conducted site observations along the right-of-way associated with the 138 kV Underground Transmission Line, 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line, East County Substation and Boulevard Substation Rebuild. Areas of active and inactive construction within the project limits were observed to verify implementation of the mitigation measures stipulated in the project’s MMCRP. Daily observations were documented on daily site inspection forms and applicable mitigation measures were reviewed in the field.

Implementation Actions

138 kV Underground Transmission Line

Construction activities during this reporting period consisted of continued efforts with constructing the underground duct bank between the Boulevard Substation south to the overhead alignment and along Old Highway 80 between the East County Substation and the overhead alignment. Construction activities observed included repairing and placement of BMP’s along the right-of-way (ROW), backfilling along the

138 kV underground alignment (see Photo 1 – Attachment A), vault placement and completing jack-and-bore activities.

Traffic control measures consisting of signage and use of flaggers were observed being implemented per the Traffic Control Plan (MM-TRA-1). Flaggers were observed being utilized along Jewel Valley Road to direct public motorists and construction traffic. Signage was also in place notifying motorists of construction traffic in the area.

In accordance with MM-BIO-1c, biological monitors were onsite to survey areas of active construction for compliance with biological mitigation measures. Topsoil was observed staged along the limits of work that will be utilized for restoration activities in accordance with MM-BIO-1d (see Photo 1 – Attachment A). Containment bins were observed being placed beneath equipment staged along the right-of-way in accordance with MM-HAZ-1c.

Archaeological and Native American observers were onsite monitoring initial ground disturbance and construction activities in proximity to ESA's in accordance with MM-CUL-1d. Additionally, the limits of work and ESAs were clearly marked in the field per MM-CUL-1a.

Water trucks were being utilized in areas of active construction to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with the Dust Control Plan and MM-BIO-4a. Trac-out measures consisting of rumble plates and rock aprons were also observed to be in place and being maintained.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line

Biological monitors were onsite to ensure construction activities remained within the approved work limits and to monitor for sensitive wildlife species (MM-BIO-1a and MM-BIO-1c). Biological monitors were also observed completing nesting bird surveys in advance of construction activities and ensuring nesting bird buffers were being adhered to by the construction crews in accordance with MM-BIO-7j. Special status plant species have been flagged and roped off for avoidance along the access roads in accordance with MM-BIO-5b.

Dust control measures consisting of watering areas of active construction (see Photo 3 – Attachment A), maintaining rattle plates and rock aprons at points of ingress/egress, maintaining speed limits of 15 MPH or less, and cleaning public streets of trac-out were being implemented during this reporting period.

Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles, silt fence and gravel bags are being maintained along the ROW in accordance with the SWPPP and MM-HYD-1 (see Photo 4 – Attachment A). Erosion control measures have been put in place to reduce the potential for soils located within the approved work limits to be discharged offsite during a rain event.

Per the Construction Fire Prevention/Protection Plan, SDG&E was observed inspecting equipment along the ROW to ensure fire suppression equipment was present. Routine patrols were completed by the fire inspection team throughout the construction activities.

East County Substation

Staged equipment located throughout the substation was observed to have containment bins beneath the equipment in accordance with MM-HAZ-1C. Hazardous materials stored onsite were also observed to be labeled and staged in proper containment bins per MM-HAZ-1C. Concrete truck operators were utilizing designated concrete washout stations following concrete pours. The designated concrete washouts were observed labeled and being maintained as required per MM-HAZ-1C and MM-HYD-1. Trash bins were also located throughout the site and being covered in accordance with MM-HAZ-1. Trash was observed in areas adjacent to the work limits that required clean up. This observation was reported to the lead environmental monitor with SDG&E and crews were observed to be removing the trash the following work day.

Water trucks were being utilized on a routine basis when crews were observed drilling pier foundations, pouring concrete, erecting H-frame and A-frame structures and when placing Class II fill (see Photo 5 – Attachment A). Speed limit signs have been posted along the main access road reminding all crews to maintain speed limits of 15 MPH or less. A rock apron and rattle plate was also observed being maintained at the primary point of ingress/egress along Old Highway 80 to minimize the potential for trac-out and associated fugitive dust emissions (see Photo 6 – Attachment A).

Construction equipment was observed to be equipped with required spill kits per MM-HAZ-1a and fire suppression equipment per MM-FF-1. All construction personnel observed onsite also had hardhat stickers indicating they had completed the environmental awareness training per MM-BIO-1b.

Boulevard Substation

In accordance with MM-BIO-1a the limits of work were clearly delineated and respected by construction crews during ongoing construction activities. Erosion control measures consisting of straw wattles and silt fence were observed being maintained in accordance with MM-HYD-1 and the SWPPP. All hazardous materials staged onsite were also observed being placed within proper containment and labeled in accordance with MM-HAZ-1a.

A fire patrol was on site and actively checking all entering personnel for WEAP training stickers and require fire equipment in accordance with MM-FF-1.

Water trucks were observed being utilized to water down areas of active construction to minimize fugitive dust emissions in accordance with MM-BIO-4 and MM-AQ-1. Construction crews were

also observed placing topsoil that had been salvaged along slopes adjacent to the substation as part of the restoration efforts in accordance with MM-BIO-1d.

Mitigation Measure Tracking

Mitigation measures applicable to the construction activities were verified in the field and documented in the CPUC's mitigation measure tracking database. A complete list of mitigation measures and applicant proposed measures is included in the FEIR/FEIS for the ECO Substation Project, as adopted by the CPUC on April 19, 2012 (Decision 12-04-022).

Compliance

An unauthorized disturbance beyond the project work limits was reported by SDG&E on March 17, 2014. The unauthorized disturbance resulted when a semi-truck delivering conduit to the Jewel Valley Construction Yard attempted to turn around and became stuck beyond the project work limits. The semi-truck was removed from the area via use of a front-end loader. The total are of unauthorized disturbance was approximately 55-feet by 100-feet.

The unauthorized disturbance was located in an area designated as a "drive through only" nesting buffer. Following the unauthorized disturbance, the area was surveyed for sensitive environmental resources to determine whether any resource damage had resulted and no issues/concerns were reported by the biologist or archeologist. The incident was discussed at the following morning tailboard and crews were reminded to remain within the approved work limits at all times. The incident was determined to be a minor deviation from MM-BIO-1A, which requires that project activities be confined to the approved work areas and from MM-BIO-7J, which prohibits construction activities from occurring within established nesting bird buffers.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS

Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site

Construction activities associated with foundation and concrete forms, drilling pier foundations, and installing circuit breakers and the associated wiring continued during this reporting period.

ECO Substation Site Construction

Crews continue completing activities associated with the concrete form building, drilling pier foundations and installation of the ground grid and electrical system. Crews were also observed erecting A-frames and H-braces.

138 kV Underground Construction

Construction crews have completed 23 vaults and 45% of trenches have been excavated and backfilled.

138 kV Overhead Construction

Forty steel pole pads/spur roads have been completed, six pole foundations are complete, and one pole has been erected.

CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

ECO Substation 500 kV and 230/138 kV Yards – SDG&E began construction activities in March 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in September 2014.

SWPL Loop-In – SDG&E has not initiated any construction activities at this time associated with the SWPL Loop-In. SDG&E is anticipated to complete construction in June 2014.

138 kV Underground Transmission Line – SDG&E began construction activities in October 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

138 kV Overhead Transmission Line – SDG&E began construction activities in November 2013 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

Boulevard Substation Rebuild – SDG&E began construction in December 2012 and is anticipated to complete construction in November 2014.

ATTACHMENT A Photos



Photo 1: A scraper is utilized to backfill along the 138 kV underground alignment near the Boulevard Substation rebuild.



Photo 2: In accordance with MM-BIO-1d, topsoil located in areas to be restored along the 138 kV underground alignment is stockpiled during the excavation process.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 3: In accordance with MM-BIO-4a, water is utilized to minimize fugitive dust emissions during excavation activities.



Photo 4: In accordance with MM-HYD-1, straw-wattles are installed along the perimeter of the work area to minimize the potential for sediment to be discharged beyond the work limits.

ATTACHMENT A (Continued)



Photo 5: Class-II fill is placed as the final road base within the limits of the ECO substation.



Photo 6: A rock apron and rattle plates are being maintained at the point of ingress/egress to the ECO substation in accordance with MM-AQ-1.

ATTACHMENT B Notices to Proceed

NTP No.	Date Issued	Description	Conditions Included (Y/N)
BLM-001	February 11, 2013	A single geotechnical boring to finalize the design of the underground transmission alignments on lands administered by the BLM	Y
CPU -001	November 30, 2012	Abatement activities at the Boulevard Substation Rebuild Site	Y
CPUC-002	February 1, 2013	Construction of a new substation (a 500 kV yard and a 230/138 kV yard)	Y
CPUC-003	February 1, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-004	March 4, 2013	Geotechnical Activities	Y
CPUC-005	May 21, 2013	Construction Yards	Y
CPUC-006	July 2, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line along Southern Access Road	Y
CPUC-007	July 30, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line within Old Highway 80 and Carrizo Gorge Road	Y
CPUC-008	August 2, 2013	Construction activities associated with the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Y
CPUC-009	September 25, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Boulevard Substation to 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-010	October 17, 2013	138 kV Underground Transmission Line from Carrizo Gorge Road to Steel Pole 91	Y
CPUC-011	November 5, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Y
CPUC-012	November 19, 2013	Fault Investigations at the Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) Loop-In	Y
CPUC-013	December 4, 2013	138 kV Overhead Transmission Line Steel Pole- 105B and Steel Pole 108A	Y
CPUC-014	March 18, 2014	Construction of Southwest Powerlink (SWPL) loop-in to connect the existing 500 kV SWPL transmission line to the ECO Substation site	Y

ATTACHMENT C

Minor Project Refinement Requests

Minor Project Refinement Request No.	Submitted	Description	Status	Approval
001	January 25, 2013	Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	February 7, 2013
002	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Domingo Lake and Jewel Valley Construction Yards	Approved	May 20, 2013
003	March 22, 2013	Adjustments to the Carrizo Gorge Construction Yard	Approved	May 20, 2013
004	May 17, 2013	Adjustments to the Southern Access Road and 138 kV Overhead and Underground Transmission Line	Approved	June 26, 2013
005	June 27, 2013	Adjustments to the Boulevard Substation Rebuild	Approved	July 26, 2013
006	July 30, 2013	Adjustments to the 138 kV Overhead Transmission Line	Approved	September 23, 2013
007	August 16, 2013	Relocation of Temporary Retention Basin	Approved	August 22, 2013
008	August 20, 2013	Construction Water Use	Approved	October 1, 2013
009	November 22, 2013	Additional Temporary Work Space for Fence Replacement	Approved	November 26, 2013
010	December 19, 2013	Access Road and Work Space Refinements at Steel Pole 63 & 64	Approved	January 14, 2014
011	January 16, 2014	Temporary Meeting Location for Material & Equipment	Approved	January 22, 2014
012	February 27, 2014	Work Space Refinements to the Southwest Powerlink	Approved	March 11, 2014